



## COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL INSPECTIONS  
372 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
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Los Angeles, CA 90012  
(213) 974-1465 or (213) 974-1431  
Website: <http://sbc.lacounty.gov>

FOUNDER  
Mrs. Sybil Brand

CHAIRPERSON  
Mrs. Eleanor R. Montaña

VICE CHAIRPERSON  
Mr. Frank S. Bacio

Ms. Barbara Bigby  
Ms. Rita Hall  
Mr. John A. Hammargren  
Mr. Carl E. Moore

### **MINUTES OF THE** **SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL INSPECTIONS** **REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING** **JULY 1, 2009**

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Montaña called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

#### **OPENING CEREMONIES**

Chair Montaña led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

#### **ATTENDANCE**

##### **Present**

Chair Eleanor R. Montaña  
Barbara Bigby  
Rita Hall  
John A. Hammargren  
Carl E. Moore

##### **Excused Absence**

Vice Chair Frank S. Bacio

##### **Staff**

Sandra Barbee, Chief, Commission Services  
Martha Arana, Commission Services Staff  
Andrew Sevrin, Commission Services Staff

#### **APPROVAL OF JUNE 24, 2009, MEETING MINUTES**

**On motion of Commissioner Hammargren, seconded by Commissioner Bigby and unanimously carried, the minutes of June 24, 2009, were approved with the following change:**

On page 2, under "Facility/Group Home Inspection Reports from June 17, 2009 to June 23, 2009", "Lancaster Sheriff's Station" remove "*Medications were out of date...*"

## **CHAIR'S REPORT**

Chair Montaña reported on the following newspaper articles:

- “Students Find A Reason To be More Optimistic”, Los Angeles Times, June 25, 2009, regarding youths from Optimist Youth Homes & Family Services beating the odds and graduating for a brighter future.
- “Sheriff May Expand Jails Condom Program”, Los Angeles Times, June 29, 2009, regarding HIV/AIDS remaining a problem among inmates due to unprotected sex.
- “County Told To Do More For Its Youth”, Los Angeles Times, June 30, 2009, regarding an annual report released by the Los Angeles County Grand Jury that finds 400,000 Southern Californians living in poverty, and that County officials must do more to protect, treat and support at-risk youths.
- “Jail Closure Rejected In Testy Session”, Daily Breeze, July 1, 2009, regarding a vote from the Board of Supervisors urging the Sheriff's Department to seek funds from its budget or other revenue sources instead of closing Pitchess Detention Center North Facility in Castaic.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Deferred to the July 8, 2009 meeting.

## **CORRESPONDENCE/AUDIT REPORTS**

Commissioner Moore reviewed and reported on the June 26, 2009, Audit Report:

The House of Bethesda Group Home, Inc. – 29 #3, was visited on June 30, 2009; all areas of concern addressed in the Audit Report have been corrected.

## **DISCUSSION OF SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

Commissioner Bigby reported that she was very impressed with her candidate, who aspires to become a social worker when he graduates and expressed serious interest in attaining the scholarship.

## **FACILITY/GROUP HOME INSPECTION REPORTS FROM JUNE 24, 2009, TO JUNE 30, 2009**

### **Journey House – 31, #5 – Commissioner Bigby**

The facility was visited on June 26, 2009, and is no longer a licensed home. It is an emancipation house.

### **Human Services Network – 30, #3 – Commissioner Bigby**

The facility was visited on June 29, 2009, and found to be in satisfactory condition.

**Areas of Concern:** Grounds very dry, posing a potential fire hazard; bathrooms need fixtures and painting; bathroom sinks need to be replaced.

**Mira Loma Detention Center – Commissioners Hammargren and Montaña**

The facility was visited on June 29, 2009, and found to be in satisfactory condition.

**Area of Concern:** Security Tower needed behind barrack 16.

**House of Bethesda – 29, #4 – Commissioners Hall and Moore**

The facility was visited on June 30, 2009, and found to be in satisfactory condition.

**Norwalk Branch Court - Commissioner Montaña**

The facility was visited on June 30, 2009, and found to be in satisfactory condition.

**Area of Concern:** Facility has serious graffiti problem.

**NEW BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Commissioner Hammargren suggested that a representative from the Quality and Productivity Commission be invited to speak to the Commission regarding the Commissioners' Conference, and how the Conference would provide a forum for discussion on developing new strategies to better utilize Commissions.

**MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA (To be presented and placed on a future agenda)**

There was none.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was none.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chair Montaña adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m. in memory of entertainers Farrah Fawcett, Michael Jackson, Karl Malden, Billy Mays, Ed McMahon, Gale Storm and Fred Travalena.

Respectfully submitted,

*Martha Arana*  
Commission Services Division